from 1.4.96 has also not been able to correct the aberration fully.

(v) Non-remunerative price of washed coal reimbursed by SAIL which resulted in loss in washery operation also.

(vi) A number of capital intensive project taken up in the past did not succeed which resulted in poor capital productivity.

(vii) Aberration in capital structure of the company over the years as a result of which share capital of the company has become far too low in comparison to the loan capital. This results in high cost on account of interest.

Following action is being taken by BCCL to improve the financial position of the company:—

(i) Increasing capacity utilisation of the mine.

(ii) Rationalisation and redeployment of manpower for gainful deployment.

(iii) Improvement in quality of washed coal by improving the quality of raw coal feed to the washeries and optimising washery operations.

(iv) Special drive has been taken to bring down cost on overtime and sunday deployment and effect reduction in other items of controllable cost etc.

(v) Introduction of cash and carry system to curb increase in sales outstanding including taking up of special drive for liquidating old outstanding dues.

Filling up of vacant posts of Chairman-cum-Managing Directors

476. SHRI GYAN RANJAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some interviews were recently conducted for filling up the posts of Chairman-cum-Managing Directors of the subsidiary companies of Coal India Ltd.;

(b) if so, the number of candidates called for interview;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Public Enterprises Selection Board stipulates that a candidates should have a minimum of two years of service at the time of being interviewed; and

(d) if so, how many candidates who had less than two years of service were interviewed and reasons for violating the established norms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI *KANTI SINGH*): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 21 candidates were called for the interview.

(c) As per extant procedure of the Public Enterprises Selection Board, candidates to be considered for a full time board level post in a Central Public Enterprise should not be above 56 years of age on the date of circulation of the vacancy.

(d) None.

Power purchase agreement between *Hinduja* and Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board

477. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the power purchase agreement between the Hinduja company and the Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board;

(b) whether Government have asked the Coal India Ltd. to supply the required coal to Hinduja plant to be set up in Vizag; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) So far, M/s. Hinduja National Power Corporation Limited and Andhra Pradesh Electricity